

# NATIONAL

5¢  
1954

OCTOBER  
No. 44

# CRONICS

10¢



*The* **BARKER**  
proves to  
**BENNY THE BEEP**  
that the  
**CIRCUS**  
is no place  
to have  
**FUN!**



AL BRYANT





WEB COMIC  
UNIVERSE.COM



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## CRIMES

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AL BRYANT



# THE BARKER



## BENNY THE BEEP

stood to make a cool ten grand on one easy job! ... but he made a couple of mistakes!

He went to the circus, in the first place! ....

Then, he failed to make allowances for a pocket-picking elephant, a bull-hooker with a one-track mind, and *Carnie Calahan, The Barker*, who can out-think, out-talk, and out-slug any three yantzeers on the lot!



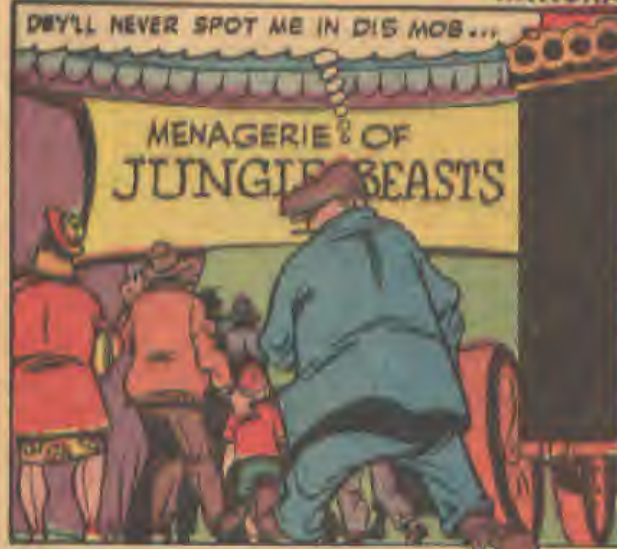




















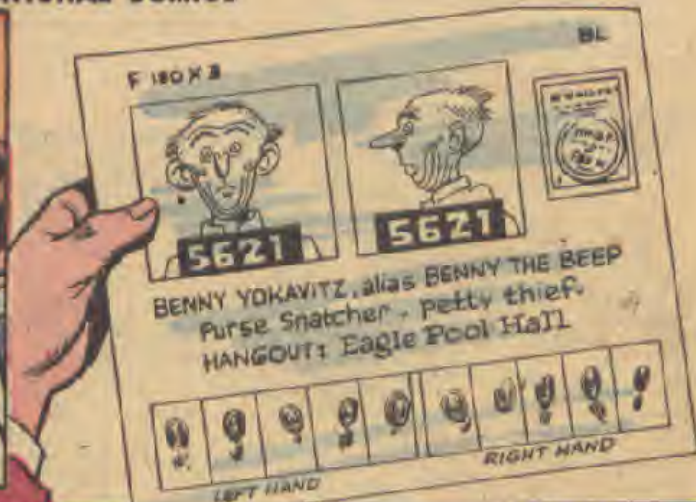




















YOU'D BETTER LIE DOWN AN' TAKE IT EASY UNTIL THE COPS GET HERE, PAL!





POLICEWOMAN

## SALLY O'NEIL

By  
AL  
BRYANT

**I**f you  
think *this*  
guy looks nuts—  
you're **RIGHT!**  
because...





THEY WERE THE CITY'S WORST CRIMINALS -- GUNMEN, THUGS, HOODLUMS -- BUT SUDDENLY, ONE AFTER ANOTHER, THEY WERE GOING MAD! ROCKY RHODES, GANGLAND OVERLORD, WAS YELLING FOR POLICE PROTECTION -- AND THE POLICE WERE BAFFLED! SALLY ONEIL WAS BAFFLED, TOO, UNTIL A GANGSTER WHO TALKED LIKE A COLLEGE PROFESSOR POINTED THE WAY TO A BIZARRE AND INCREDIBLE SCHOOL FOR SKULLDUGGERY!

WONDER WHAT ALL THE EXCITEMENT'S ABOUT, OVER THERE!... GUESS I'D BETTER INVESTIGATE!



ONE SIDE, PLEASE! LET ME THROUGH HERE!



WHAT...?... 'NUTS' NISI, ROCKY RHODES' PET GUNMAN! -- AND HE MUST BE COOKED TO THE 'EYEBALLS'!!

WHOA, HORSEY! NICE, PRETTY HORSEY! TEE-HEE-HEE!



COME ON, "NUTS"! THE DEPARTMENT WANTS YOU AS A GUEST STAR ON A LITTLE PRIVATE "QUIZ PROGRAM"!

OH, GOODY, GOODY! CAN I TAKE MY PRETTY HORSEY?



SEE MY PRETTY HORSEY? HE'S GOT LONG, WARM FEATHERS ALL OVER HIM! HEE-HEE-HEE!

HHMMMM... YES, YOU MAY BRING YOUR HORSEY, "NUTS"! (AND I DO MEAN "NUTS"!)



STOP DRAGGING YOUR FEET OR I'LL PUT ON THE NIPPERS!... CAREFUL!

HEE-HEE! IT AIN'T ME! IT'S MY HORSEY! HE WANTS TO STOP AN' PLAY WITH THAT CUTE LITTLE PINK HIPPOPOTAMUS!



ULP-ULP! NOW I KNOW I'M SEEING THINGS!



BWA-A-AH!! DAT BAD BOY STOLE MY DOLLY!



















TOSS HER DOWN WITH THE OTHER ONE AN' WE'LL GET RID OF THEM TOGETHER!



NATIONAL COMICS



HERE, SPORT --  
SUMP'N TO RELIEVE  
THE MONOGAMY!



THE FIEND!  
ARE YOU  
ALL RIGHT,  
MISS?

IN A CREAKY  
SORT OF WAY!  
I -- HEY!...  
ARE YOU  
TWIN?



I'M THE REAL  
DR. WOODS! THE  
OTHER ONE IS  
AN IMPOSTOR  
DISGUISED AS  
ME! HE'S A  
RENEGADE  
DOCTOR WHO  
TURNED TO  
CRIME!

WHAT A  
NERVE!...  
STEALING A  
MAN'S HOSPITAL  
AND NAME!!  
BUT WHY?  
WHAT'S THE  
RACKET!



WHILE  
UPSTAIRS...

THAT LADY  
COP BOTHERS  
ME! IF SHE  
DISAPPEARS,  
THE POLICE'LL  
TURN THE  
TOWN UPSIDE  
DOWN!

I'VE GOT THAT  
FIXED! -- YOU  
CONVINCED THE  
POLICE THAT  
SOMEBODY  
DROVE YOUR  
MEN TO  
INSANITY!



ONE SHOT OF  
THIS DRUG -- AND  
SHE'LL REALLY  
GO CRAZY!



HAVIN' HER  
AROUND GIVES  
ME THE JITTERS!  
LET'S GIVE HER  
THE SHOT RIGHT  
NOW!

ALL RIGHT!  
AND WE CAN  
FINISH OFF  
DOC WOODS  
AT THE SAME  
TIME!...  
NOBODY'LL  
MISS HIM!



HURRY! THEY'VE  
STARVED AND BEATEN  
ME UNTIL I HAVEN'T  
MUCH STRENGTH...

JUST AS I  
FIGURED! THE  
TRAP ISN'T LOCKED!  
I'M OKAY!



GIVE ME A HAND,  
DOC, AND I'LL  
PULL YOU --  
AWWRRRK!  
...CAUGHT!

THE DAME'S  
LOOSE!...  
GRAB  
HER!



WE  
GOT  
HER!!







# G-2

No. 18  
The case of the  
RESCUED  
CAPTIVE!

THE JAPANESE  
USED TO BOAST THAT  
NOBODY EVER ESCAPED  
FROM CAMP CHOTSU, THEIR  
PRISON FOR THE MOST  
DANGEROUS AND TROUBLESOME  
WAR CAPTIVES! I SAY  
THEY USED TO BOAST  
THAT --- THEY DON'T  
ANY MORE! BECAUSE---

CAPT. DON LEASH  
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE  
DIVISION

PRISONERS,  
HALT! GIVE  
ME YOUR  
ATTENTION!

A MAP OF THIS DISTRICT  
HAS BEEN STOLEN FROM A  
GUARD! THE ONLY REASON  
FOR THAT THEFT IS AN ESCAPE  
ATTEMPT! UNTIL THE MAP  
IS RECOVERED, RATIONS WILL  
BE CUT AND ALL PRISONERS  
CONFINED TO THEIR HUTS!  
ANYBODY WISH TO CONFESS?  
... THEN GO TO YOUR  
HUTS -- AT ONCE!

THAT CAPTAIN  
LEASH SERVED WITH  
THE AMERICAN  
INTELLIGENCE  
-- HE HAS A  
BRILLIANT  
MIND  
AND A  
STRONG BODY!  
HMM!





**CAPTAIN LEASH SPEAKS  
TO HIS HUT-MATE,  
MAJOR KYLE....**

THEY SUSPECT, KYLE! IF THEY FOUND THAT I TRICKED MY WAY INTO THIS DEATH-TRAP TO RESCUE DR. GATES—

IT WOULD BE CURTAINS FOR HIM—AND FOR YOU, AND ME! QUIET—THOSE OFFICERS ARE FOLLOWING US!

YOU ARE HUT-MATES OF DR. GATES! WHY DID HE DARE DISOBEY ORDERS AND FAIL TO FALL IN FOR ASSEMBLY JUST NOW?

WHY... WHY, HE'S ILL! ... UNABLE TO LEAVE THE HUT!

WE'LL MAKE SURE! IF YOU ARE LYING, DR. GATES MAY DIE! NO INMATE OF CAMP CHOTSU IS MORE THAN A STEP AWAY FROM THE FIRING SQUAD!

IF YOU ARE DECEIVING US...

LUCKILY FOR HIM, HE IS NOT! HIS PULSE IS WEAK, AND HE SEEMS TO HAVE A TEMPERATURE!

IS IT POSSIBLE TO GET MEDICINE FOR MY FRIEND?

NO! LET HIM DIE! THE SOONER THE BETTER—FOR HIM AND FOR JAPAN!

GREAT JOB OF ACTING! YOU FOOLED THEM INTO THINKING YOU WERE SERIOUSLY ILL!

SORRY, CAPTAIN, BUT I WASN'T FOOLING! I'M SCIENTIST ENOUGH TO KNOW THAT I'M ACTUALLY SICK, AND MAY NOT RECOVER!

YOU HEARD THAT? WE MUST GET HIM OUT OF HERE AND TO OUR ARMY! HIS YEARS OF STUDY IN JAPAN MAKE HIM OF UNTOLD VALUE TO OUR INTELLIGENCE STAFF!

THEN, THE SOONER WE PUT OUR PLAN INTO ACTION, THE BETTER! I THINK WE'D BETTER TRY TONIGHT!



LEAVING HERE IS EASIER SAID THAN DONE! AS YOU KNOW, CAMP CHOYSU IS TRIPLY GUARDED AGAINST JUST SUCH AN ATTEMPT!



THE WALL'S HIGH AND THICK, SWARMING WITH GUARDS — AND THE JUNGLE BORDERS ONE SIDE, THE SEA THE OTHER! FURTHER, NO CAPTIVE IS ALLOWED TO LEAVE HIS HUT!



**B**UT-AS NIGHT FALLS—

AHOY, GUARD! DR. GATES HAS DIED!

STAY IN YOUR HUT! I'LL NOTIFY THE BURIAL DETAIL!

ANOTHER YANKEE PIG TO BE BURIED, YESS-S!

RIGHT! ... AND THE DAY WILL COME WHEN THEIR WHOLE RACE IS DEAD!

JUST WHAT WE WANTED, LEASH!

YES — UNIFORMS TO DISGUISE US — AND A STRETCHER TO CARRY DR. GATES!



I HATE TO BE A BURDEN! — MY BODY IS WEAK!

BUT YOUR MIND IS POWERFUL! THAT'S WHY YOU'LL BE OF USE TO AMERICA! DRAW THE CAP LOW, KYLE!

DO YOUR BEST TO LOOK LIKE A JAP, KYLE! TURN YOUR TOES IN AND KEEP YOUR FACE COVERED!

--AND IF I STUMBLE AND DROP THE STRETCHER, I'LL SAY, "SCUSE, PLEASE!"













# QUICKSILVER





























# UNCLE SAM



**W**E'RE ALL HIS NEPHEWS -- AND HE  
**LOOKS AFTER US!**

WHENEVER AND WHEREVER EVIL FORCES  
STRIKE AN AMERICAN, THERE MUST BE  
A RECKONING IN FULL WITH

*Uncle Sam!*

























# Destroyer 171

A doughty little ghost ship haunted the dreams of a Jap naval commander! Her guns still blazed defiance at America's enemies, even though she was officially "sunk" in the infallible records of the Nippo navy! And the man who commanded this ghost ship sat at a desk four thousand miles removed from her quarter deck! Across the width of an ocean he controlled the fate of the "lost" U.S.S. "Pawnee," Destroyer 171, as she entered into the most glorious battle of her glory-studded fighting career!





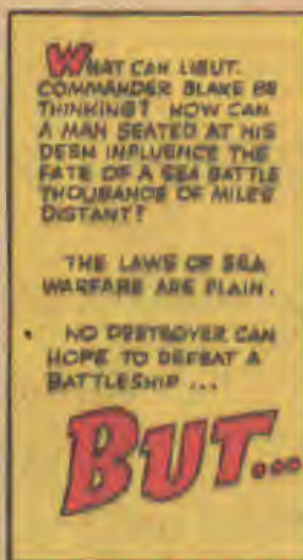
# NATIONAL COMICS













**A**ND SO THE LAST ACT OF THE TENSE  
DRAMA OFF THE CHINA COAST BEGINS!



**S**TRAIGHT INTO THE MAW OF INESCAPABLE DOOM FLUNG  
THE GALLANT "PAWNEE" AND HER FIGHTING CREW.



**W**HILE ABOARD  
THE "HOSHIMA"...



THE JAP'S  
PITCHING HEAVY  
STUFF! **HARD  
LEFT RUDDER!**



**B**UT A TERRIFIC BLAST FROM THE  
"HOSHIMA'S" ELEVEN-INCHERS  
ROCKS THE "PAWNEE" TO THE WATER-LINE!



A DIRECT  
HIT! WE'RE  
GONERS!

SHALL WE ABANDON  
SHIP? WE CAN'T  
FIGHT NOW!



THE "PAWNEE" HASN'T  
BEGUN TO FIGHT! STEER  
STRAIGHT FOR THE "HOSHIMA"!  
THEY'LL KNOW THEY'VE BEEN  
IN A BATTLE BEFORE THIS  
SHIP GOES UNDER!









# NATIONAL COMICS

THEN FOLLOWS ONE OF THE STRANGEST CHAPTERS IN THE ANNALS OF SEA WARFARE AS THE U.S.S. "PAWNEE" SETS OUT AFTER A FLEEING MODERN JAP GOLIATH!

THEY'RE RUNNING! WHAT HAPPENED!

DON'T ASK ME! I'M AFRAID TO PINCH MYSELF FOR FEAR I'LL WAKE UP!

LET US LEAVE THE CHINA COAST NOW. ... OUR SCENE SHIFTS TO THE NEXT DAY, AT A CERTAIN NAVAL BASE ...

BLAKE, I'LL HAVE YOU COURT-MARTIALED! YOU HAD STEPHENS BROADCAST A FAKE REPORT THAT THE "VERMONT" WAS STEAMING TO AID THE "PAWNEE"! YOU KNOW AS WELL AS I DO THAT THE "VERMONT" IS STILL AT PEARL HARBOR!

I HOPED TO FRIGHTEN THE "HOSHIMA" AWAY FROM COMBAT WITH MY SHIP, SIR!

DO YOU THINK TOKYO IS SIMPLE MINDED ENOUGH TO SWALLOW A FISH STORY LIKE THIS? THEY'RE LAUGHING AT YOU -- AT THE WHOLE U.S. NAVY! AND IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT!

EXCUSE ME, SIR! THE PHONE'S RINGING!



WHAT'S THAT? ARE YOU SURE?... THAT'S MORE THAN I HOPED FOR! WOULD YOU MIND REPEATING IT TO THE ADMIRAL?

IT'S STEPHENS! HE WANTS TO TELL YOU THAT TOKYO SWALLOWED THE BAIT WHOLE! AND THEY ORDERED THE "HOSHIMA" SCUTTLED TO SAVE IT FROM BEING SUNK OR CAPTURED!

WELL, I'LL BE GLAD!!

BLAKE, I TAKE BACK WHAT I SAID! TOKYO IS A BIGGER FISH THAN EITHER OF US THOUGHT! THIS MAKES YOU THE FIRST NAVAL OFFICER IN HISTORY TO SINK A BATTLESHIP AT A RANGE OF FOUR THOUSAND MILES!

I'D CERTAINLY LIKE TO HEAR TOKYO EXPLAIN THIS ONE!



NEXT DAY -- THE TOKYO NEWS BROADCAST ...

THE ILLUSTRIOUS "HOSHIMA" AFTER BATTLING SUPERIOR ENEMY FORCES, WAS SCUTTLED BY THE HEROIC CREW TO PREVENT CAPTURE BY THE ENEMY! TOMORROW HAS BEEN SET ASIDE BY THE EMPEROR TO CELEBRATE OUR VICTORY! ... BANZAI!

SO ENDS THE SAGA OF THE "PAWNEE," EXCEPT FOR A FINAL MESSAGE --

BLAKE WILL MEET US AT THE NAVAL BASE! THEY'RE GIVING HIM COMMAND OF THE SHIP AGAIN! AND THE "PAWNEE" WILL SURE BE GLAD TO HAVE HIM BACK!

